

Media Release
28th February, 2007

5th Adelaide Festival of Ideas, 5 – 8 July

Which way to the future?

Speakers and themes announcement

The list of overseas and Australian speakers has been announced for the **5th Adelaide Festival of Ideas** (FOI 07) to be held from **5 - 8 July 2007** at venues along North Terrace in Adelaide. Conducted over three full days and four evenings in Adelaide, the Festival of Ideas provides a gathering place for some of the worlds most eminent and provocative speakers.

The theme for FOI 07, is **Which way to the future?** with around forty leaders in their fields across the disciplines of science, economics and environment, religion, human rights and journalism coming together to discuss and think with the public on major topics of concern today including **global warming, China and India's** growing economies, **migration, terrorism, health, trade, modern working life, obesity** and **whistle blowing**. The carbon neutral FOI 07 will comprise fifty-four free public sessions and four paid evening sessions.

Mark Cully, Chair of the Festival's Program Advisory Committee said, 'Most people agree on the kind of future they want – growing prosperity, a sustainable environment, decent work, a feeling of security, and to bequeath a better world to their children. What we don't agree on is the best way to get there. The speakers at FOI 07 will map out possible paths, challenge our thinking and debate the alternatives. The future should not be foreboding. It is ours to imagine, then create.'

Heading the overseas speakers is veteran independent scientist, environmentalist and originator of the Gaia Theory **James Lovelock** (UK), described by *New Scientist* as one of the century's greatest thinkers.

Other high profile overseas speakers include:

Jagdish Bhagwati (India) Professor Economics and Law, Columbia University and Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, author of *In Defence of Globalisation* which is to be re-released in June with a major new afterword

Barbara Ehrenreich (USA) Journalist and social critic of renown, author of a *New York Times* bestseller *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*

Ramachandra Guha (India) Historian and biographer, columnist for *The Hindu*, cricket expert

Marion Nestle (USA) Professor, Nutrition, Food Studies and Public Health, New York University, author of *What to Eat*

Francis Wheen (UK) Journalist, deputy editor of *Private Eye*, author of *How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World: A Short History of Modern Delusions*

They will be joined by seven other leading overseas speakers (see full listing below) and twenty four Australian speakers including **Peter Cullen** – former Environmentalist of the Year, member of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, director of Land & Water Australia; **Chris Graham** – founding editor, *National Indigenous Times*;

Paul Monk – Managing Director, Austthink, intelligence expert and author of *Thunder from the Silent Zone: rethinking China*; **Julian Morrow** – Satirist from *The Chaser's War on Everything*, ABC TV; **Manny Noakes** – Senior Research Dietician, CSIRO and co-author of the best-selling *CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet*; **Colleen Ryan** – China correspondent, *Australian Financial Review*; **Elizabeth Wynhausen** – senior writer with *The Australian*, and author of *Dirt Cheap: Life at the Wrong End of the Job Market*.

A free program of events with information on all sessions and participating speakers will be available from June 2007 through selected bookstores. A list of stockists is available on the festival's website: www.adelaidefestivalofideas.com.au

The Adelaide Festival of Ideas is a biennial event, which was first conducted in July 1999. Since it began FOI has opened debate on leading issues of our times. FOI has become hugely popular harnessing ideas, experience and intellect and attracting attendance from all states of Australia and from overseas.

The full list of overseas speakers attending FOI 07 comprises:

- **Jagdish Bhagwati** (India)
Professor Economics and Law, Columbia University and Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, author of *In Defence of Globalisation*
- **John Campbell** (NZ)
Physicist, science communicator, firewalker and biographer of Sir Ernest Rutherford
- **Joseph Cheng** (China)
Professor of Political Science, City University, Hong Kong and convenor of Power for Democracy
- **Barbara Ehrenreich** (USA)
Journalist and social critic of renown, author of *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*
- **Jay Griffiths** (UK)
Polemical writer, author of the award winning *Pip Pip: a sideways look at time* a polemic against the dreary, playless life-denying manner in which modernity sees time.
- **Ramachandra Guha** (India) Historian and biographer, columnist for *The Hindu*, cricket expert
- **Sidney Jones** (USA)
South East Asia Project Director of the International Crisis Group, Indonesia. A specialist in human rights in Asia and frequent media commentator she collaborated on a series of seminal reports on Jemaah Islamiyah.
- **James Lovelock** (UK)
Independent scientist, environmentalist, originator of the Gaia Theory, described by *New Scientist* as one of the century's greatest thinkers
- **Wilma Mankiller** (USA)
Indigenous leader, first female principal chief of the Cherokee Nation
- **Marion Nestle** (USA)
Professor, Nutrition, Food Studies and Public Health, New York University, author of *Food Politics: How the Food Industry Influences Nutrition and Health* and most recently, *What to Eat*
- **Tim Radford** (UK)
Freelance science journalist, former science editor of *The Guardian* who has lectured or taken part in debates about science and the media all over the world

- **Ahmed Rashid** (Pakistan)
Journalist and expert on Central Asia, author of *Jihad: the Rise of Militant Islam in Central Asia*, first journalist to address the UN General Assembly
- **Francis Wheen** (UK)
Journalist, deputy editor of *Private Eye*, author of *How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World: A Short History of Modern Delusions*

The full list of Australian speakers attending FOI 07 comprises:

- **Janelle Allison** – Director, Centre for Rural & Regional Innovation, University of Queensland
- **Miriam Baltuck** – NASA scientist and Director, Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex
- **John Buchanan** – Director, Workplace Research Centre, University of Sydney
- **Tracey Bunda** – Indigenous educator, Director, Yungngorendi First Nations Centre, Flinders University
- **Paul Chadwick** – journalist and lawyer, Victoria's first Privacy Commissioner
- **Hilary Charlesworth** – Director, Centre for International Governance and Justice, Australian National University
- **John Connell** – Professor of Human Geography, University of Sydney
- **Peter Cullen** – former Environmentalist of the Year, member of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, director of Land & Water Australia
- **Chris Graham** – founding editor, *National Indigenous Times*
- **Robin Jeffrey** – Director, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University
- **Rabbi John Levi** – first Australian ordained rabbi, patron and founder of the Council of Christians and Jews, Jewish historian
- **Tim Lindsey** – Director, Asian Law Centre, University of Melbourne
- **Simon Longstaff** – philosopher and Executive Director, St James Ethics Centre
- **Sarah Maddison** – feminist and Lecturer, School of Politics and International Relations, University of New South Wales
- **Paul Monk** – Managing Director, Austthink, intelligence expert and author of *Thunder from the Silent Zone: rethinking China*
- **Julian Morrow** – Satirist from *The Chaser's War on Everything*, ABC TV
- **Manny Noakes** – Senior Research Dietician, CSIRO and co-author of the best-selling *CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet*
- **Kerin O'Dea** – Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne
- **Guy Pearse** – former federal government adviser and speechwriter, whistleblower
- **Colleen Ryan** – China correspondent, *Australian Financial Review*
- **Norman Swan** – journalist and presenter of the *Health Report*, ABC Radio National
- **Maria Tumarkin** – author of *Traumascapes. The Power and Fate of Places Transformed by Tragedy*
- **Marian Wilkinson** – journalist and National Security Editor, *Sydney Morning Herald*, co-author of *Dark Victory*
- **Elizabeth Wynhausen** – senior writer with *The Australian*, and author of *Dirt Cheap: Life at the Wrong End of the Job Market*

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